Introduction of Computer Technology in Government Offices

6464. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that establishment expenditure of Government offices is considerably high affecting developmental plans of the country as major chunk of money goes for maintaining them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent Government have been successful in reducing establishment expenditure by introducing latest modes of efficient technology like computer; and

(d) by what time, Government envisage linking whole of them with computer network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b). The share of the estimated establishment expenditure on Central Government employees (excluding Defence Services Personnel) in the annual Budget for the last three years is as follows:—

Years	Percentage
1992-93	10
1993-94	9
1994-95	9

The question of developmental plans of the country being adversely affected by the establishment expenditure brought out above does not arise.

(c) and (d) Introduction of computers has resulted in effective monitoring of medium and large plan projects by giving on line computer communication networks support. At present, Govt. is operating satellite based data communication network called NICNET, across the country which connects the Central Govt., State Govts. and district administration offices. "Electronic mail" has also been made available which has significantly brought down the need for paper based communication among various Govt. organisations. This alone has cut down communication cost by about 40%.

Cases against Bhupen Dalal in Security Scandal

6465. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases have been registered against Bhupen Dalal involved in the Security Scandal and banking irregularities;

(b) whether investigation has been carried out in foreign countries also in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c). Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that five cases have been registered by them against Bhupen Dalal in connection with securities and banking irregularities. On the request of CBI in one of the cases 'Letters Regotary' have been issued by the Special Court Bombay to the Competent Authority in U.K., Channel Island and Isle of MAN.

Promoter's share acquired by Official

6466. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the allegation against some officials in his Ministry acquiring Promoters shares, contained in a book entitled "Security Scandal—A report to the Nation"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken with regard to the possession of Promoters' share by the Officials of Government of India.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Grant of Amnesty to Foreign and Domestic Banks

6467. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report appearing in the 'Business Standard' dated 21st April, 1994 to the effect that the Reserve Bank of India mooted a proposal to the Ministry of Finance to grant an amnesty to those foreign and domestic banks who have been illegally siphoning funds out of the country through vostro accounts and also pressed for out of court settlements without recourse to legal proceedings; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have not mooted any proposal to grant amnesty to foriegn and domestic banks who have transferred funds through vostro accounts. RBI have also not proposed any out of court settlement.

Government's Stand on Malhotra Committee Report

6468. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI MATANG SINH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the recommendation of the Malhotra Committee on reforms in the insurance sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit of US Mission to India

6469. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 21-Member high level financial sector Study Mission from US visited India in the month of March, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the team had discussions with the Indian Government functionaries on various financial institutions and industrial organisations;

(c) whehter the US financial sector has indicated strong interest in the investment potential of the large and affluent Indian market;

(d) if so, to what extent the aid of the US team has been achieved;

(e) the number of agreements with US Government in regard to the investment that have been signed; and

(f) the details of the agreements reached and what steps are being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The purpose of the Study Mission was to give american Financial leaders on opportunity to assess India's financial deregulation and evaluate future plans to open the Indian market to the global financial community.

(e) and (f) No agreements were